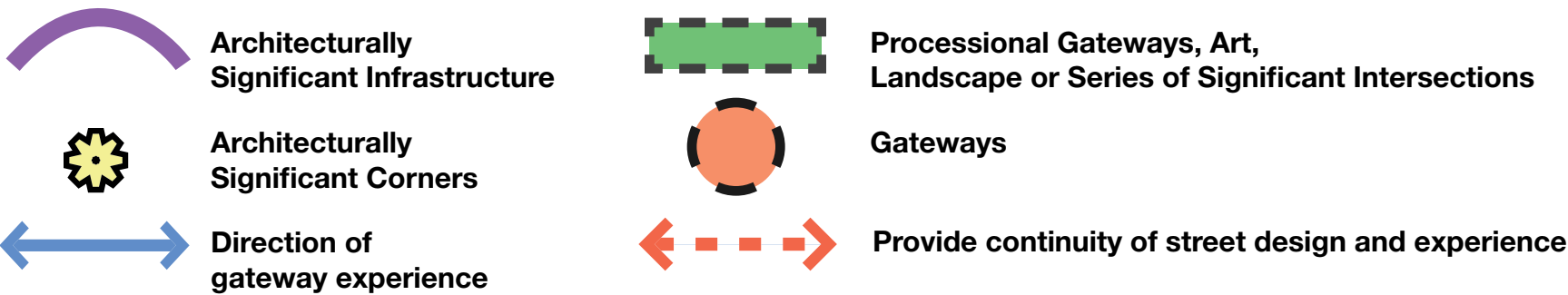
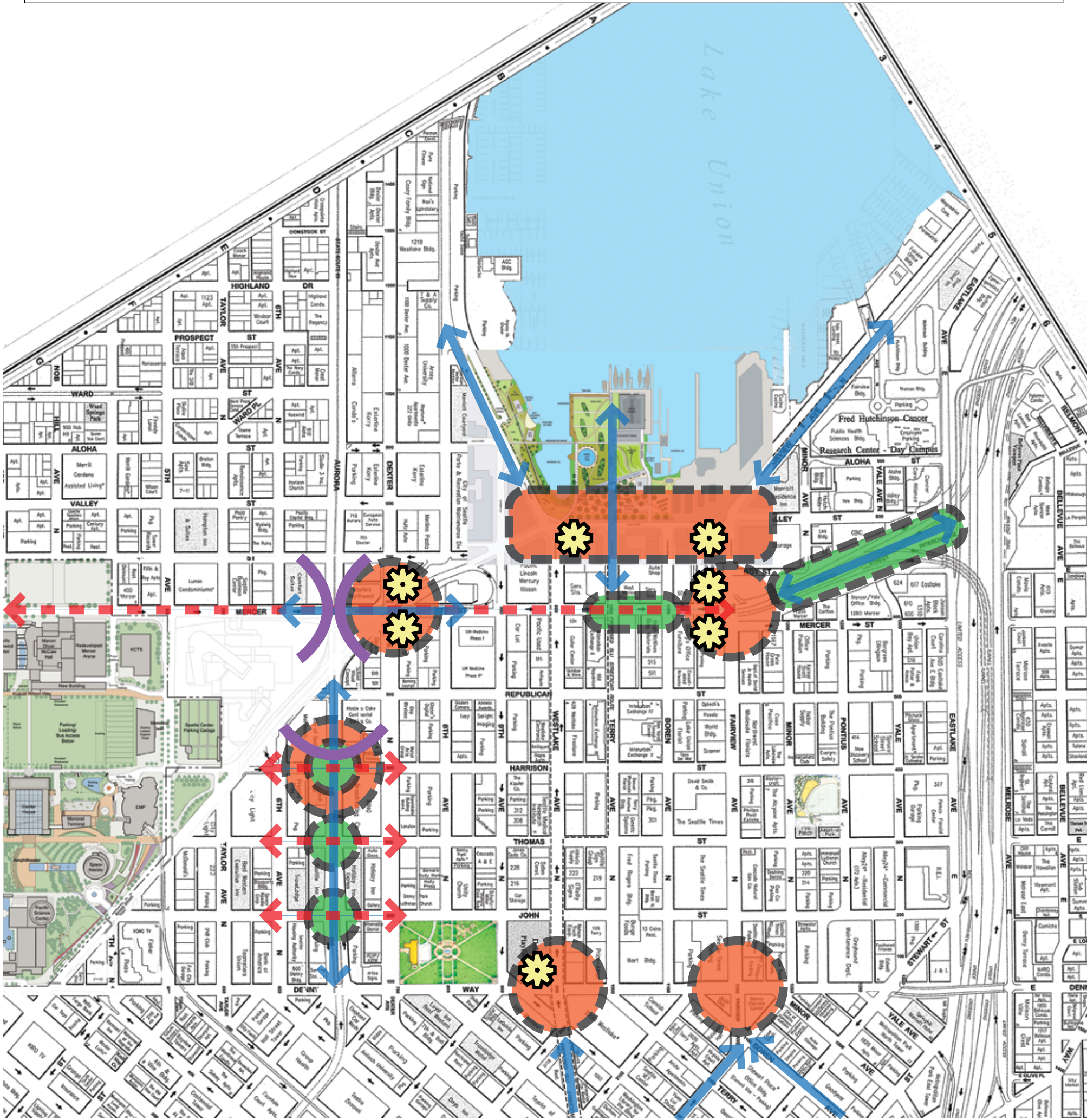


KEY ISSUES AND CONCEPTS

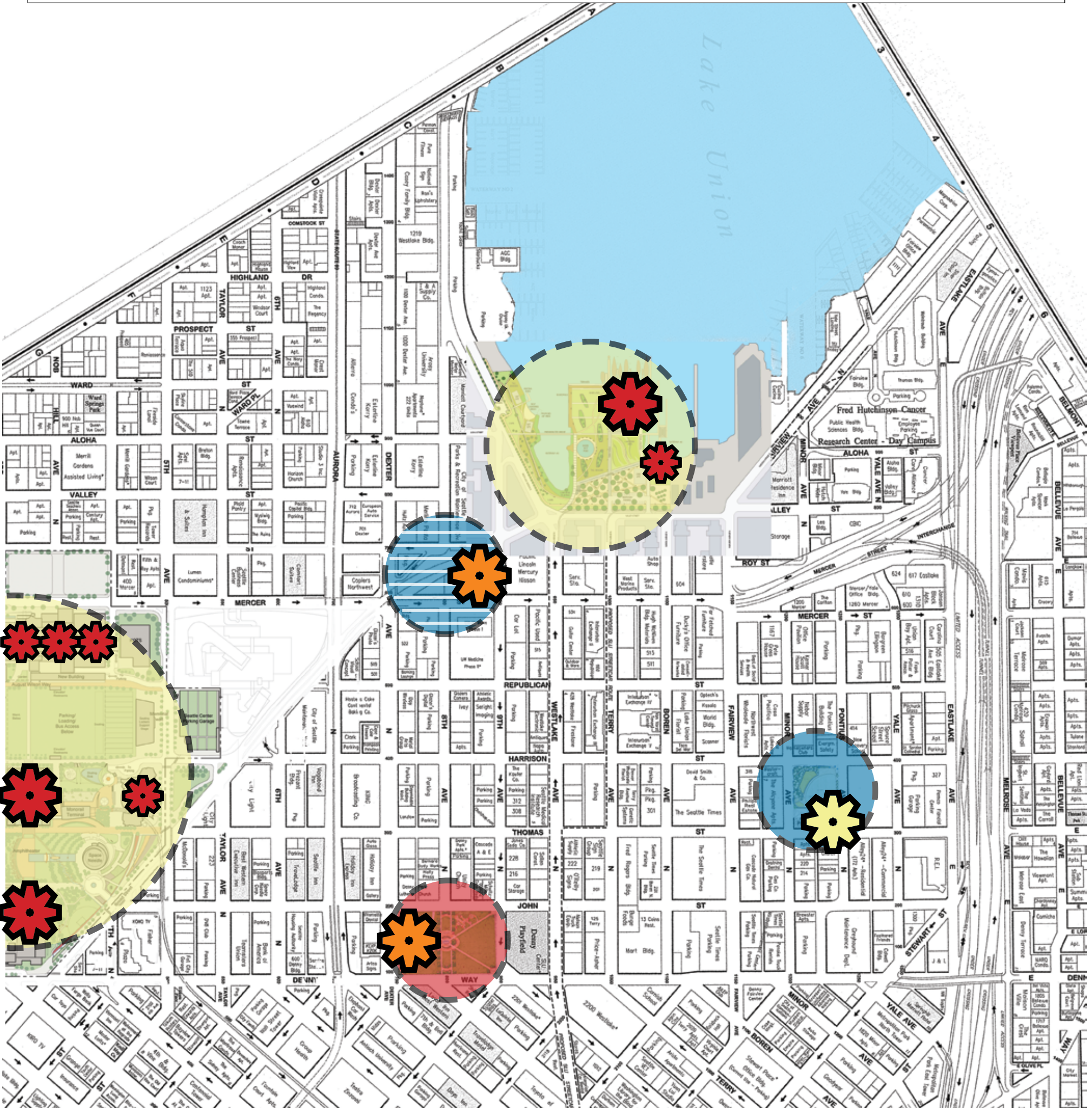
- Gateways are identifiers of passage into or out of the neighborhood by a variety of travel modes.
- Architecture, art, and landscape can all act as gateway elements.
- Gateway responses should be location-specific and not standardized.
- Gateways should neither be overly literal nor so subtle as to be missed.
- The new bridge at Mercer / Aurora and Tunnel portal at Harrison / Aurora should be designed to express their role as a gateway.
- Processional gateways help ease the transition between freeway speed and city speed and vice-versa.
- Significant corners have been identified where the architectural response should support the concept of gateway, and receive special attention through design review.





KEY ISSUES AND CONCEPTS

- SLU Design Guidelines: “Heart locations serve as the perceived center of commercial and social activity within the neighborhood. These locations provide anchors for the community as they have identity and give form to the neighborhood.”
- There are three scales of hearts - Regional / National, Local / Citywide, Neighborhood).
- Depending on scale, public spaces and adjacent uses should be designed to maximize activity, access, permeability, and accommodate community gathering.
- Each heart has a civic or cultural anchor which should be a focus.
- “Heart Streets” were deferred until the Street Connectivity and Character charette.



National / Regional Heart

Local / Citywide Heart

Neighborhood Heart



Potential Neighborhood Heart



Cultural Anchor Facility  
(MOHAI, Center For Wooden Boats)

Civic Anchor Facility  
(Library, Community Center, etc.)

Neighborhood Anchor Facility  
(Cascade People’s Center)

08.27.09





KEY ISSUES AND CONCEPTS

- Both physical (natural or man made) and perceived edges bound South Lake Union in all directions.
- The SR-99 tunnel and new at-grade Aurora create a unique opportunity to reconnect SLU to Uptown Triangle and beyond.
- Emphasis should be given to creating good pedestrian crossings on Denny Way and Mercer, especially on Westlake, Fairview and the other “gateway” streets
- Connections to the Lake’s edge should be more porous and invite public use.
- Denny Way is a major challenge given the amount of traffic, the narrow right-of-way and the grid shift. Focus should be on creating the best possible crossings at key streets and creating setbacks for widened sidewalks.
- In areas of topographical edge conditions new connections should be created to surrounding neighborhoods.

